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FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

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FTA Urges Early Certifi[illegible]ion In Calif. C[illegible]ies

San Francisco, Calif.—FTA has aske[illegible] Processors and Growers, Inc., for early negotiations on the 1946 contract for s[illegible]. and G. canneries in Northern California. In a letter to Paul St. Sure, industry attor[illegible] Fred Less, provisional chairman of the FTA California Cannery Council, said that FTA expects to be certified shortly as the collective bargaining agency for cannery employees as a result of the CIO victory in the recent NLRB elections.

"A negotiating committee of representatives from 10 FTA cannery locals has already been elected and will stand in readiness to meet with the bargaining committee of C. P. and G. and yourself as soon as possible," Less declared.

Meanwhile, the NLRB has investigated and validated a large number of the 1,290 ballots challenged in the recent election. FTA was 63 votes short of a clear majority over the AFL Teamsters at the time of the election, and the ballots now should provide sufficient votes for an FTA majority.

In an effort to speed certification of FTA by the NLRB, General President Donald Henderson wrote to all California Congressmen and Senators on Dec. 29 urging them to use their influence to get immediate government action.

"The Teamsters International Union," Henderson wrote, "is endeavoring to nullify the results of this election by throwing picket lines around some of the plants, forcibly refusing to let workers enter these plants, and intimidating management into continuing to deal with them even though the Teamsters Union lost the election."

A similar letter, sent by the California Processors and Growers to California Congressmen and Senators, declared that "a situation of gravest importance" is developing due to the slow action of the NLRB.

The FTA Cannery Council announced the signing of the first contract since the recent election with the Pacific Grape Products Co. of Modesto, one of the largest independent canneries in California.

The contract provides a closed shop; voluntary checkoff; time-and-a-half after 8 hours a day and 40 hours a week; double time for Sundays and holidays; three paid holidays; 15 days sick leave; and time-and-a-half after 5 hours work without a meal period.

Hourly wages were raised 10c an hour and piece rate wages 10c over present average weekly earnings. The agreement is an interim agreement to run until March 1, 1946.

Pacific Grape is one of the largest independent canneries in the State, employing 1,800 workers at the season's peak.

FTA also announced that it has just won an election at the Parrish Frozen Foods plant at Stockton, by a vote of 33 for FTA and 7 for the AFL Teamsters.

"The vote in the Parrish plant and the signing of the Pacific Grape plant shows that support for FTA is growing despite attempted intimidation by the Teamsters and their attempt by a 'blockade' to throw cannery workers out of work," Luisa Moreno, Regional Director, declared.

"Cannery workers are now aware of the fact that the Pacific Grape contract has won demands which they were unable to achieve in 8 years under the AFL."

Board Meets on Coast To Plan Wage Struggle

Philadelphia, Pa.—As the NEWS goes to press, the [illegible] Executive Board is in session in San Francisco, Calif., mapping out the job ahead for the Union for the next decisive six months.

"The outstanding problem which the Board wil have to face is that of a correct wage policy and the preparations for the struggle to carry this labor policy out in cooperation with the rest of the CIO," said President Donald Henderson when he opened the Board meeting on January 7.

The Board meeting is scheduled to last until January 12, following which a complete report on the decisions made will appear in the February 1 issue of the paper.

Henderson Scores Truman Double-Talk

Philadelphia, Pa.—General President Donald Henderson, on the day following President Truman's January 3 radio speech, criticized Truman for trying to sell his anti-strike proposals as a measure which will prevent worse anti-labor bills later on, and trying to slip it through along with the social legislation demanded by labor.

"Any kind of social legislation that is passed," Henderson said, "will be nullified by Truman's anti-strike proposals designed to bust trade unions. While Truman was justified in blaming Congress for its failure to pass social legislation, he, too, shares the blame for not lifting a finger to get Congress to act.

"Although his speech mildly rebuked General Motors for its lack of cooperation in settling the auto strike, Truman failed to indicate that industry is provoking the strike situation and disrupting production at the expense of the nation's welfare.

"Today when more than two million workers are heading into a giant strike movement, Truman did not point out why labor is being forced to fight for decent wages and the maintenance of take-home pay. Instead he proposes to punish labor for its struggle against Big Business attempts to strangle labor. Labor is striking for the very same guarantees of security which Truman gave lip service to in his speech," Henderson concluded.

Meanwhile, Elizabeth Sasuly, FTA Washington Representative, also criticized Truman's speech as "an open invitation to Congress to pass its own anti-labor legislation if it doesn't like his."

Pointing out the gap between Truman's words and his deeds, she attacked the compromising way in which he is ready to accept watered down versions of the positive legislation which labor is demanding.

"Inasmuch as Mr. Truman points to the unemployment compensation bill and the full employment bill as they passed the Senate as desirable legislation," Sasuly said. "Apparently he will be satisfied with bills just so long as they have the right labels, even without content."

Santa Visits Strikers' Kids: Toys, candy, ice cream, movies—everything a kid could want—were enjoyed by the children of the American Tobacco strikers in Philadelphia at the gay Christmas party held on Dec. 22. Santa (above) had a gift for every child. The strikers in Philadelphia, Pa., Trenton, N. J., and Charleston, S. C., have been holding out since October 15 for wage increases, in the first major strike in the tobacco industry. They have received financial support and cooperation in the boycott of American Tobacco products from FTA locals and other unions and organizations throughout the country. (See stories on pages 5 and 7.)

FACING OUR PROBLEMS

By DONALD HENDERSON,
General President

THE FTA BOARD MEETING

THE International Executive Board meeting of FTA takes place in the midst of tremendous struggles at home and abroad where the labor movement and the progressive peoples of the nation and the world are trying to maintain the fruits of victory over fascism and guarantee the peace.

On a world scale these struggles center around maintaining the unity of the Big Three and guaranteeing that the common peoples of each nation have a decisive voice in world affairs.

At home the crux of these struggles is the fight of the labor movement to stabilize our economy at full production and full employment, with a high wage scale. The interests of the entire nation is bound up with this struggle of the labor movement to maintain purchasing power through decent wages and working conditions.

Consequently on the domestic front the outstanding problem which the International Board will have to face is that of a correct wage policy and the preparations for the struggle to carry this labor policy out with the rest of the CIO. The passage of the Pepper-Hook Bill guaranteeing to workers 65c minimum and more adequate coverage is of special importance to our union because of the sweat shop wage levels prevalent in our particular industry.

The second major problem facing the Union during 1946 is to break the bottle-neck now blocking the passage of progressive legislation in Congress. Adequate programs for making the people's voice heard by the present congressmen, intensive preparation for spring and summer primaries, and defeating the reactionaries in the fall elections, are all phases of this job. The job of passing minimum wage legislation, adequate health and unemployment insurance legislation, defeating anti-labor legislation, and extending price control all depends upon breaking this bottleneck.

A Job We Can Be Proud Of

A third major problem is to complete the splendid job that was done during the past six months in consolidating our existing organization and to clinch the victories in the West Coast canneries. It is something that our entire membership can be proud of that your Union was able to both consolidate throughout the country while simultaneously successfully carrying out an organizing campaign covering nearly 75,000 new workers on the West Coast. However, while elections have been won in some 70 canneries, we have a big job ahead of us to get certification by the NLRB in the face of Teamster opposition. We will furthermore have some 20 to 30 elections coming up in the new canneries in California and Oregon in the spring and summer. And finally we have the tremendous job of negotiating contracts for all these canneries and of consolidating the new membership which may run well into 100,000.

In spite of the concentration on the West Coast during the past four months, there has been an increase from 528 plants under contract in December, 1944, to 568 plants under contract, December, 1945. Over 62 of our contracts now have closed shop provisions, 289 have union shop, and 166 have maintenance of membership. This shows a high degree of union security.

Fourthly, we must launch a campaign throughout the labor movement and the people of the nation to secure at least a minimum of justice for the agricultural workers of our country. They are today treated as second-class citizens. They are deprived of the normal rights which industrial labor has been accorded. There can be no healthy America while these millions of agricultural workers are without organization, without legislative rights, and without enough to live on.

Tell It To Congress

IN HIS SPEECH of January 3, Pres. Truman tried to pressure Congress into passing his anti-strike "cooling-off" proposal immediately. This and a host of other anti-labor measures play right into the hands of Big Business whose strategy is to provoke strikes and force the passage of anti-union bills in the fond hopes of busting trade unions. Re-inforce the picket lines by getting your Congressman to take action on the following measures:

Anti-Strike Bill (S. 1661, H. R. 4908)

Carries out Truman's proposals by setting up anti-strike apparatus. Before the House and Senate Labor Committee.

ACTION: Get Senators and Representatives to vote against it.

Hobbs Bill (H. R. 32)

Subjects unionists to fines and jail sentences for picketing, soliciting dues, members, etc., under an Anti-Racketeering statute. Passed the House and is on the way to the Senate.

ACTION: Tell Senators to oppose.

May-Arends Bill (H. R. 3937)

Outlaws union political action; sets jail fines for strikes in "violation of contract." Defeated once from coming up on House floor, but can come up again.

ACTION: Write Senators and Representatives to oppose it.

65-75c Minimum Wage Bills (S. 1349, H. R. 3914)

Sets minimum wages at 65c an hour first year, then 75c, extends coverage. Before Senate Labor Committee where Sen. Ellender (D., La.) is trying to filibuster it.

ACTION: Wire your Senator for quick passage without any phoney "compromise."

FEPC (S. 101, H. R. 2232)

Present agencies are being liquidated now. Makes FEPC permanent and effective in preventing job discrimination. Stalled in House Rules Committee where Discharge Petition 4 needs 218 signatures to get it out.

ACTION: Wire your Representative to sign Discharge Petition.

Fact Ignoring Plan

What Causes Strikes

TO hear some people talk, you'd think labor wanted strikes and called them just for the hell of it.

Actually, working people have least reason of all to like strikes. They bear the full brunt of them, in loss of income while they last, and in every other attendant discomfort and disadvantage.

As the most substantial section of the public, working people have the most reason of all to want industry operating at full blast and without interruption, to make available a greater supply of goods and services at lower prices, as well as to provide steady jobs for themselves.

Why, then, are so many workers today voting by overwhelming majorities to go on strike?

They do so because other people have created intolerable conditions under which the workers have no other recourse but to strike. The strike vote does not cause a strike, it is the effect of strike causes which lie much deeper and which are not created by labor.

The United Steel Workers' decision to strike on January 14, after 400,000 workers have voted by secret ballot for such action, is a case in point.

Here are some of the causes:

Wage rates were frozen during the war while living costs soared. Since the war, take-home pay has been so cut through loss in working time and downgrading that the workers can hardly make ends meet, let alone provide the purchasing power necessary for a prosperous community.

So the union demanded a wage increase of $2 a day, a partial restoration of the wage cut suffered.

Meanwhile, steel profits during the war rose 276% over prewar levels—from $933 million to over $3½ billion—and net profits, after taxes, rose 113%.

The steel industry is in a position to pay the $2 increase and still earn next year over $400 million in net profits after taxes of 3½ times its peacetime average.

There is nothing, therefore, in the steelworkers' wage demands that need cause a strike.

The orderly procedure required by the law and desired by the workers is that employers and union should sit around the conference table and bargain collectively until a satisfactory settlement is reached.

But the steel corporations have refused to bargain collectively. Even when the government asked a resumption of collective bargaining, and the union at once accepted, the U. S. Steel Corp., still said "No," and ran full-page ads saying "nothing can be settled through collective bargaining."

Instead of bringing sharp pressure to bear on the corporations to abide by the law, which requires collective bargaining, the administration supinely yielded to their arrogance and called for a law to shackle labor.

So three causes of the steelworkers' strike vote at once emerge, none of them created by labor:

- **the intolerable economic condition of sharply cut wages in contrast to fantastic profits;**
- **the refusal of the corporations to bargain collectively;**
- **the failure of the Government to require collective bargaining.**

The answer to the question, "Why do workers want to strike?" is: They don't; they're forced to by conditions and employers' actions over which they have no control.

But the real question that should be asked is: Why do employers force strikes?

The answer, certainly in the case of steel, lies partly in their greed for exorbitant profits at the expense of labor and the public; and partly in the emergence of increasing signs that they're trying to start another union-busting campaign similar to that which followed the last war.

(Reprinted from CIO News)

BLS Proves Work'rs Need Wage Increase

Washington, D. C. — Figures and facts supporting labor's demands for higher wages due to the increase in the cost of living during the war were recently released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

This Government Bureau shows that where in 1941 an income of $1475 yearly was enough to cover living expenses for an average city family of three, the same family in 1944 needed a yearly income of $1950 after taxes in order to break even. Any savings for this typical family were absolutely out of the question.

"A fourth of these families," the report shows, "depended on more than one earner. At present, it would require steady work, 40 hours a week for 50 weeks, at $1.03½ an hour, for one person to provide an income of $1950 after taxes."

A Tall Story From Local 84, Indiana

By Portens Boyd, Reporter

Indianapolis, Ind. — Local 84 members of the Acme-Evans Milling Co. are howling over the following story about one of their bosses:

This guy was downtown one day and did an organ grinder a favor by minding his monkey for a few minutes. A little girl came along to give the monkey a dime. She looked at our boss and then at the monkey. Then she turned to her mother and asked, "Mama, which one must I give the dime to, the monkey or his daddy?"

The boss got sore and left to catch a trolley car. But the monkey's owner caught the same car and made him mad. The boss walked over and asked the conductor, "Do you allow monkeys on this car?" And the conductor answered, "Sit down and no one will know you are here."

An Open Letter To Mississippi Voters

By Ceferino A. Lugo, Local 278

New York, N. Y.—Citizens of Mississippi: Allow me to call your attention to the fact that Senator Theodore G. Bilbo has earned for himself the qualifications of a race-baiter. Because of this "honor" he should be cast out from his high position. The workers of America will be grateful to you for this favor.

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DONALD HENDERSON
General President
HAROLD J. LANE
General Secretary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents
Lewis Bentzley
John Mack Dyson
Louis F. Jedlicka
Luisa Moreno
Otis Nation (on leave)
Armando Ramirez
Robbie Mae Riddick
Dixie Tiller
Armando Valdes
Owen H. Whitfield

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"BE HOME EARLY FOR SUPPER, DEAR."

Local 78 Approves Industry-Wide Proposal for Union Shop, 18% Raise

El Centro, Calif. — Industry-wide negotiations between Local 78 and the fresh fruit and vegetable shippers under contract to the Union have resulted in a tentative agreement including an industry-wide union preference union shop, an 18% wage increase and an improved seniority clause.

The tentative agreement has been referred to the union members and to the shippers who will be affected by it for their final approval, Int. Rep. Bob McKay revealed.

Protest Murder Of FTA Member On Picket Line

Little Rock, Ark.—Protesting the vicious murder of George Campbell, Local 98 member, while he was peacefully picketing the Southern Cotton Oil Mill here, General President Donald Henderson wired Governor Ben Lany of Arkansas to bring Campbell's murderer to swift justice.

On December 26, Campbell was picketing the plant along with other members of Local 98 when Otha Williams approached with a group of scabs to break the picket line. When Campbell tried to inflence Williams not to work during the strike, Williams whipped out a knife and stabbed Campbell to death.

Campbell leaves a wife and two small children, while his murderer was allowed to go free on a $1,000 bond. Eight other union pickets were arrested under the State Anti-Violence Law sponsored by the pro-fascist Christian American Association. They were placed under bonds of $1,000 to $2,500 each.

"Have just been informed of the vicious stabbing to death of one of our Union members—George Campbell, where he was on the picket line at the Southern Oil Mill in Little Rock," read Henderson's wire to Governor Laney. "I was shocked that the murderer, Otha Williams is now free on bond of only one thousand dollars, and more shocked to learn that eight union picketers were arrested and placed on bonds of one thousand to twenty-five hundred dollars each.

"This open murder while peacefully picketing, and the obviously unfair arrest of union pickets has already created the situation where there is threatened a miscarriage of justice. I am informing the national leaders of all CIO unions throughout the country of this situation. I urge that you do everything possible in your power as Governor to prevent this threatened miscarriage of justice."

Because of this wanton murder, the strikers at the plant are even more determined to win their fight and the strike remains 100% solid, Regional Director Frank Hargrove informed FTA NEWS.

Hargrove also revealed that this case will probably mean testing the constitutionality of the Anti-Violence Law. The citizens of Arkansas and surrounding states are up in arms over the incident. A committee headed by Arkansas Regional CIO Director William R. Henderson has been set up to sponsor the defense of the eight union members under arrest and to prosecute Williams.

Local 22 is Leading the Fight For Decent Wages in Winston

By Elizabeth Green, Federated Press

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Underlying the unemployment that settled on this town after V-J Day is the South's notorious low wage system, which came through the war unscathed.

Eight thousand workers in this city of 95,000 were laid off when three war plants closed down at the end of the war. Two thousand communted here from nearby communities and of the remaining 6,000, about half are still drawing unemployment compensation. What happened to the rest is unknown.

Wages being offered men run from 50c to 60c an hour, according to Secy.-Treas. Sy Chisholm of the Winston-Salem Central Labor Union, and returning veterans are dismayed and angered by the so-called job opportunities awaiting them here. One labor organizer told me of a non-union veteran who reported that he'd just been offered a 72-hour job for $25 a week and that he'd "be damned if he was going to take it. The unions should crack down on some of these people."

According to Harry J. Kruzs, general manager of the local Chamber of Commerce, there is a shortage of skilled and common labor in Winston-Salem. Chisholm reports, however, that half the machinists laid off by the Natl. Carbon Co. are still looking for work.

POW's Still At Work

The Food Tobacco & Agricultural Workers (CIO) discloses that Nazi war prisoners are still working in the tobacco leaf houses, although their removal has been promised by the War Dept. within a month. Management's explanation for the use of POWs is that nobody else wants the jobs. FTA says: "That's hard, nasty work that nobody wants to do for 50c an hour."

While 30 to 45 small new businesses have been opened this year and the Duplan Corp. is building a $1 million nylon processing plant expected to give employment to the better part of a thousand, this still does not add up to nearly enough jobs for the 11,000 boys who went into the army and the 11,000 more who left to work elsewhere, most of whom are expected to return here.

A period of business expansion is ahead, the C. of C. claims, naming labor and transportation facilities as its special inducements to attract new industry here. Both are on the surface rather doubtful inducements.

Appeal To Community

But the workers of Winston-Salem are fighting hard to break down the low wage system, which gives them a choice of jobs paying 40c to 60c an hour. Leading the campaign for a minimum wage law of at least 65c hourly in the big FTA local in the city's main industry. Not only are 100 letters a week going from members of the local to their Senators and Congressmen, but the local is also circularizing all the farmers and businessmen of the community, pointing out their stake in the 65c minimum wage law.

To the farmers the tobacco workers say: "Prosperity is like a train. It travels on two rails. One is good prices to farmers, the other is decent wages to workers. The one is no good without the other."

To the small businessmen they are saying: "The passage of this bill would mean an increase in the buying power of over half the workers in Winston-Salem. It would mean more trade for you."

Leaf House Workers Urge Price Control

Winston-Salem, N. C. — After reading OPA head Chester Bowles' testimony in support of wage increases without price increases, which appeared in the Dec. 1 issue of FTA News, Local 22 sent Bowles a warm letter of commendation.

"We go on record supporting 100% your work to keep prices down," wrote Robert Latham, Chairman of the leaf house unit of 2,000 workers.

"We know that the biggest strike in America today is the sit down strike of big business and industry who refuse to produce goods, so badly needed by the people, until given price increases.

"The cost of living has gone up too high—but without OPA it would be much worse. We also know that the cost of living is continuing to rise.

"We were pleased to read of your endorsement of wage increases without any price increase, and urge you to continue to safeguard the people's pay envelope."

Vets Committee Battles It Out With Congressmen

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Local 22's veterans are home from the war, but they haven't finished the fight. Only this time, the battle is a legislative one and their weapons are letters to their Congressmen.

The most recent issues on which the Veterans Committee took action are the 65c-75c minimum wage bills, anti-labor legislation, the housing shortage and U. S. intervention in China.

J. P. Powell, Chairman of the Committee, informed Representative Folger, and Senators Hoey and Bailey that the veterans are opposed to Pres. Truman's anti-strike proposals. "These bills," Powell wrote, "will not bring peace, but instead will cause chaos, confusion and trouble."

Get Out Of China

On the situation in China, the Committee informed their Congressmen that "we fought this war to guarantee democracy and the right of countries to determine their own affairs.

"We urge you to see that H. R. 408, calling for the immediate withdrawal of our troops from China, is acted upon at once."

A resolution was adopted unanimously by the Veterans Committee calling on the Winston-Salem Board of Alderman to take measures for "permanent housing by making arrangements to start Federal low-cost housing projects immediately."

Local 80 Calls Members To Pitch In and Fight

Camden, N. J.—"All over the country, big industrialists are on a sit-down strike. They are screaming for higher prices, lower wages and curbs on labor," said a statement by the Local 80 Executive Board which was recently distributed to the membership.

The statement, a call to the Local 80 members to close ranks and unite against the Big Business offensive, went on to say:

"The members of our Local have struggled long and hard for the conditions we now have. We intend to maintain and improve those conditions.

"The outcome of negotiations with our largest and most powerful company — Campbell Soup — hinges on the results of the wage struggle conducted by our brother CIO unions in Auto, Steel and Electrical.

"The workers of General Motors have come to grips with these profit-mad moguls of industry. The nation-wide battle for wage increases is meeting its first test in the Automobile centers of our country. The workers in Steel and Electrical are preparing for a showdown in the coming weeks."

"And what has President Truman done to carry out the Roosevelt program for a peaceful, prosperous America? By his actions, the statement shows Truman has shown himself a friend of the profiteers.

"In words, the President has called for wage increases. In deeds, he has aligned himself with the profit grabbers to prevent wage increases. His proposals to Congress for anti-strike legislation has already aroused organized labor.

"Fair Employment Legislation, to prevent discrimination against minority groups is being strangled to death in Congress, with the help of Administration forces. . . .

"Our government has departed from the friendly cooperation among nations established by President Roosevelt. . . . Our troops in China are being used to support a reactionary government.

"No one of us can afford to remain passive in the fight in which our future will be decided. You can advance this fight by:

- Greater participation in the affairs of the Local.
- Participation in the Local's campaigns for progressive legislation.
- Backing the GM strike through contributions.
- Participating in political action to support labor's candidates for office in the coming elections.
- And, finally, by fighting against racial and religious hatred."

Win Highest Chi. Wages In Coffee And Canning

By Veronica Kryzan, Reporter

Chicago Ill. — Local 194's recently concluded agreements with the Chase and Sanborn Coffee Division of Standard Brands and with the Campbell Soup Co. have succeeded in establishing the highest rates for the coffee industry and the food canning industry in the Chicago area.

The Chase and Sanborn contract provides a general 5c hourly wage increase, retroactive to October 6, bringing the minimum rates for women up to 67½c an hour and 85c an hour for men. A special clause for veterans was also included in the contract.

At Campbell's Soup, a new transfer policy has been put into effect, based upon the B-Hour system. Hereafter, all probationary employees will remain on the operation to which they are best suited for 320 hours without a transfer except in cases of emergency or materials shortage. Operators with 320 hours experience will be transferred in accordance with their weekly average B-Hours beginning with the lowest ranking and progressing to the highest. Those with 60 B- Hours or more will be transferred on a rotation basis as required. Persons with 70 B-Hours or more will be untouchable for transfer except in cases of materials shortages.

This new transfer policy will be on a trial basis for a period of 6 months, after which it will be reviewed by the Company and the Union to ascertain the fairness of such a policy.

Local 194 Shop Stewards and officers took part in a meeting of Chicago CIO unions held on December 12 at the LaSalle Hotel where a joint program was mapped out for the CIO wage demands. Realizing that the pattern set by the Auto, Steel and Electrical workers unions in their wage demands would guarantee the success of the demands of the other unions, the representatives at the meeting pledged full support to the struggles of the three unions.

The Administration's anti-labor bills came in for sharp criticism.

'65c' Needed In Canneries

Washington, D. C.—Elizabeth S. Magee, General Secretary of the National Consumers League, appearing recently before the House Committee on Labor, called for amendments which would no longer exempt the canning industry from the minimum wage and overtime pay provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Speaking in support of the Pepper-Hook 65-75c minimum wage bills (S 1349, HR 3914), Miss Magee said: "We must insure against return to the substandard wages paid o cannery workers before war shortages compelled improvement."

Low-Wage Industry

Along with the overtime pay and seasonal exemptions suffered by workers in the industry, are the low wages in the industry, the Consumers League representative pointed out. In 1942, 1/3 of the workers in the industry averaged less than 40c an hour. However, though substantial improvement in wages resulted from the passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1938, the "area of production" qualification kept the minimum wage law from being effective in many states.

"The exemptions, so eagerly sought by the canners proved a boomerang in the war period," Miss Magee told the House Committee. "With wages frozen at their previous levels, canneries found themselves on the short end in the competition for labor. The industry found itself reversing its position and asking permission of the government to increase its wage scales."

Orange Queen: Louise Posey, lovely member of the Citrus Workers Organizing Committee, was crowned Orange Queen at the annual Fall Frolic held by CWOC last month at the Green Mill Ballroom in Porterville, Calif. We don't have to go into detail about Louise's suitability for the role, since the 600 people who attended the dance all agreed that she had the "oomph" needed for the part, as you can see for yourself.

During the affair, Union officers told of the progress of the Union and made a special appeal to boycott the products of the American Tobacco Company.

At all CWOC meetings, political action is an important point on the agenda. In response to a bulletin from Citizens PAC, CWOC petitioned Congress and the Federal Communications Commission to issue licenses to broadcasting stations in a fair manner so that labor and the public may hear the truth about labor's program.

CWOC was also represented at the California Emergency Legislative Conference in Sacramento on January 5th and 6th. Letters, wires and petitions are going to Congress and President Truman protesting the shackling of labor with the anti-strike proposals and the Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill. CWOC congratulated CIO Pres. Philip Murray for his firm stand on the wage issue. Communications from the FTA National Office on political action are brought up for discussion and action at all membership meetings.

By Dave Forbes, International Representative

FTA Files For Election In Phillips Canneries

Cambridge, Md. — This Company-dominated town perked up recently when FTA filed for a National Labor Relations Board election for bargaining rights in the Phillips Packing plants here. The plants, where soups and vegetables are canned, employ some 1200 workers and 400 Nazi prisoners of war.

Because of the tight hold of the Company on the whole town of Cambridge, the organizing campaign was conducted "underground." Although no leaflets were distributed and no public meetings were held, a majority of the workers in the plants were signed up in four months by International Organizer Elsie Smith.

Will Lead the Way

Organization of the Phillips canneries will blaze the trail for unionism throughout the Maryland cannery belt. The second largest cannery in the East, Phillips employs approximately 3000 workers in peak season and sets the standards for the surrounding canneries, where wages are among the lowest in the country.

In previous years, attempts at organization by the cannery workers here met with violence and terror on the part of the Company.

At present, the Company has a contract with a company-union, which is due to expire next March. FTA-CIO members at Phillips are determined to fight for the recognition of a bona fide union to improve the sub-standard conditions in the plants.

School's In For Calif.

San Francisco, Calif. — FTA's West Coast Leadership Training Schools, to be held the weeks of January 13 to 19 and January 20 to 26, will be a happy meeting place of old and new FTA members. Here, leaders of the new FTA locals set up since the recent FTA victory in the Northern California cannery elections will have the opportunity to learn more about the union. Oldtimers, too, will be schooled in the ways to build a better union.

Delegates chosen by the West Coast locals will be housed at the Asilomar Hotel in Pacific Grove, overlooking the blue Pacific Ocean and surrounded by a pine forest.

The courses include discussions led by FTA and CIO leaders on food industry problems; FTA-CIO on the West Coast; principles of unionism; organizing; stewards; union meetings, etc. For the evenings, prominent speakers have been invited.

Cannery Delegates were in the spotlight at the California CIO convention held in San Francisco last month. Here are some of them seated at the center table just in front of the State sign. Reading from front to back on the right hand side of the table: William White and Jack Adolph, Sunnyvale; Lee Bronson, San Jose; Fred Less, Sunnyvale; Int. Rep. Pat Verble of Sacramento and Int. Rep. Dave Saunders, Oakland; Regional Director Luisa Moreno, and Alice Tucker. On the left side of the table: Hilda Bowen, San Jose; Henry Desborough, San Jose; Int. Rep. Lorena Jump, San Jose; a warehouseman, and Juanita Soto, Secretary of Local 50 in Oakland.

Don't Buy Lucky Strike Pall Mall

I WOULDN'T BUDGE AN INCH FOR A LUCKY

The Little Man Who's Sweeping the Country: From coast to coast, FTA's poster, urging a boycott of Lucky Strike and other American Tobacco products, is rallying public support for the American Tobacco strikers. Has your local distributed these posters to unions and other organizations in your community? Posters may be ordered in quantity from the National Office.

Amer. Tobacco Strikers Make History in South

Charleston, S. C. — The 1,200 workers of Local 15 on strike here against the American Tobacco Company since October 22 have been making history in these parts.

This is Charleston's first industrial strike. And what is more important, for the first time in the city's history. Negro workers and white workers have joined together to fight for a decent living.

The local residents, according to reports which reached the Union, didn't think it could happen. And then once it happened, they predicted that it couldn't last. They were wrong on both counts.

The strike has lasted eleven long weeks. And it will last as long as it takes to win. Even though this is their first strike, even though they are pretty much alone down here (Local 15 is the only CIO local in the city), the workers are showing remarkable lasting power.

Know Why They Fight

The strike has lasted because the workers know just how important are the objectives for which they fight. When they win, the cause of Negro-white labor unity in this section of the South will have been greatly strengthened.

And when they win, they will also have dealt the first frontal blow at the age-old North-South wage differential which has for so long kept so many Southern workers in near peonage, classed as "cheap Southern labor". That's because Local 186 in Philadelphia and Local 56 in Trenton and Local 15 are demanding and will get a single blanket contract for all three plants.

Boycott - Funds

Reuel Stanfield, the local's president, reports that since the first of the year, they have been writing hundreds of letters to CIO locals everywhere, to progressive newspapers and magazines and organizations, asking for cooperation in their nation-wide boycott against all American Tobacco Company products (Lucky Strike and Pall Malls, especially) and asking for funds to help the welfare committee here.

They need money badly. Eleven weeks is a long time, and even though the workers' families are getting along on ten dollars a week and less, 1,200 families are a lot to take care of. Even Charleston winters get cold, and families must be fed. Brother Stanfield reports a fine response to their pleas for money, but says more help is badly needed.

"Our workers will stay out all right," he says, "and I hope that every brother and sister in FTA knows that their help on the boycott is the thing that will finally win for us. I hope that they are letting everyone know that 'Lucky Strike Means Fink Tobacco.'"

Cops Couldn't Frame Local 15 Striker

Charleston, S.C. — Local police here are still shaking their heads. They couldn't frame a Negro woman striker, because her white fellow-workers came to her defense.

The Negro woman, a member of Local 15, had been spat upon by a scab mechanic one afternoon near the American Tobacco plant. She reached down, wiped her leg and swore. The police, johnny-on-the-spot, arrested her for disturbing the peace. In the magistrate's court, they testified that she had "carried on."

Three white women, fellow-workers, told the judge that they saw the incident, and that the cops were lying. The judge dismissed the case. And the cops still can't believe their eyes.

CIO Leaders Pledge To Support FTA Strikers

WITH the strike at the American Tobacco Company going into its third month, the issues involved and the boycott campaign have come to the attention of CIO and other unions all over the country. Rallying to support FTA's fight for decent wages, many CIO unions have made financial contributions to the strike fund and have publicized the boycott against American Tobacco products.

Here are a few letters of support which FTA has received from outstanding CIO leaders:

FROM PHILIP MURRAY, PRESIDENT OF THE CIO:

"On behalf of the CIO, I wish to extend through you to your members at the plants of the American Tobacco Company who are now on strike, our full support and sincere best wishes for your success.

"The issues which are involved in the pending dispute merit the complete support of every American concerned with the welfare of our nation. The demands of the workers for a 65c minimum wage, 25c wage increase, union security, and a clause eliminating discrimination based on race, creed or color, and the elimination of the North-South wage differential, are reasonable and are designed not merely to protect the interests of the workers in these plants but will assure a national economy that will mean improved conditions and effective democracy for all the people.

"The attitude of the American Tobacco Company in refusing to engage in bona fide collective bargaining or to accept in good faith conciliation and mediation is but typical of the arrogant defiance demonstrated on the part of many corporations throughout the country.

"However, I am confident that the determined effort now being displayed by the membership of the CIO in the manifold industries to secure substantial wage increases—of which your strike at the American Tobacco Company plants plays a very important role—must result in victory."

FROM JAMES B. CAREY, SECY.-TREAS. OF THE CIO:

"I am very glad to lend support to the members of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers, CIO, now on strike against the American Tobacco Company, for a decent minimum wage and other necessary working conditions . . .

"In fighting for decent wages and working conditions, you are fighting not only your own battle but that of all union labor and indeed of all people who work for a living in this country . . .

"The CIO recognizes that your cause is a just one, that your struggle is our common struggle, and pledges every possible support in bringing your strike to a successful conclusion . . ."

FROM R. J. THOMAS, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS, CIO:

"Thank you for your kind message of support and cooperation in our strike against the General Motors Corporation.

"We shall do all we can to publicize the action you are taking against the American Tobacco Company and shall urge our members to boycott the brands produced by the above-mentioned Company.

"Best wishes for your campaign in our joint efforts for full employment and decent wages."

FROM REID ROBINSON, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNAT'L UNION OF MINE, MILL AND SMELTER WORKERS, CIO:

"Kindly convey to the 2,500 members of your Union who are on strike against the American Tobacco Company the full support of the membership of our organization in their strugle . . .

"Our members will refuse to purchase American Tobacco Company products as long as the Company refuses to meet the Union's minimal demands."

FROM ABRAM FLAXER, PRESIDENT OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO:

"On behalf of the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO, we extend our wholehearted support to the three FTA locals in their justified strike against the American Tobacco Co. We have already wired our Local Unions and field representatives in the areas involved to do all in their power to assist the striking tobacco workers.

"The boycott of Pall Mall and Lucky Strike cigarettes has been given prominence in our Union newspaper, and will continue to be on the Unfair List until the American Tobacco Company makes a settlement which is acceptable to the FTA . . ."

FROM BERNARD J. MOONEY, ACTING SECY.-TREAS. OF THE UNITED OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO:

"We wish to convey to your members that the United Office and Professional Workers are behind them in every effort which they may make to bring about decent working conditions and a living wage.

"Every effort will be made through our national publications and communications to our Local Union officers throughout the country to bring about an understanding of your fight, and participation of our rank and file in this movement . . ."

A Merry Christmas Party was enjoyed by the American Tobacco strikers in Philadelphia, thanks to the financial support which they have been receiving from the public. Good food, plenty of beer, entertainment and dancing highlighted the affair. Food baskets for the strikers' families were contributed by the American Youth for Democracy and other organizations.

GREETINGS!

A New Year's Message From CIO

THE CIO's New Year's Resolution, voiced by CIO Pres. Philip Murray in his annual New Year message, is a promise to fight for the achievement of Franklin D. Roosevelt's program of peace and economic security.

Murray said the year will be one "of great decisions for the American people—decisions which will make or mar our future for many years to come. It can be a year in which we lay a firm basis for a prosperous and expanding economy, for democratic progress and for lasting world peace," or it can be a year "of domestic discontent and turmoil, of low wages and unemployment leading to general depression, a year of political reaction and international friction."

High Wage Standards

Organized labor, he said, "as represented by the CIO, will do everything in its power to see that the right decisions are made. The first decision that must be made is that America shall be a country of high wage standards . . .

"If our country's wealth is to be used for the increasing welfare of all our people industrial wages must be immediately and substantially raised to restore the workers' take home pay and put money into circulation in a fashion that will benefit the whole community.

No Anti-Labor Laws

"Along with this economic decision must go the political decision that the powers of government shall not be used to destroy labor's rights, to break unions, and to cater to the selfish few at the expense of the many. If 1946 is to be a year of progress, prosperity and peace, we must set our economic house in order and must see that our political leaders follow through to the goals of social justice, enlightened democracy and world unity set forth by Pres. Roosevelt and indorsed by the American people in the last elections.

"For the attainment of these constructive ends, the CIO will greatly increase its industrial and political activities in 1946, in close cooperation and in full h.rmony with all progressive Americans."

Don't Buy
Lucky Strike
Pall Mall

On Strike

World Labor

SOUTH AFRICA:

In a recent letter to FTA, Ray Alexander, Secretary of our sister-union in South Africa—the Food and Canning Workers' Union, appealed for support in their campaign to fight a proposed new law which attempts to wipe out militant trade unionism among the African natives.

The proposed new law, described as "fascist-like state control" by Sister Alexander, would permit native unions to register and acquire legal status, but would prohibit strikes by native workers. It would compel government supervision of union elections and control of union funds. In order to prevent a united labor front among the African and European (white) workers, the bill would rule out participation by European workers in the affairs of African unions except by special permission of the Minister of Native Affairs.

Progressive trade union leaders, who have long fought to amend present legislation so that European and native workers could join together to win better living standards for both, see in the new measure a renewed attempt to stir racial hatred and encourage a deepening split between European and native workers.

Sister Alexander charged that the proposal is "not only dangerous for African workers, but for the whole trade union movement."

Greetings from FTA members were cabled to the Food and Canning Workers' Union on the occasion of the South African union's annual convention this month. We "applaud your valiant fight for decent working standards and against discrimination," the cable, signed by General President Donald Henderson, read. "The advancement of colonial peoples is part of our struggle here."

Urgent appeals for food for the four million South Africans now faced by widespread famine resulted in the launching of a campaign for South African relief on January 7 by the American Council on African Affairs. Canned foods or funds for the purchase of food and other needed supplies should be forwarded to the American Council on African Affairs, 23 West 26th Street, New York, N.Y. this month.

AMERICAN LIBERTIES ARE THREATENED:

We Must Act To Stop Lynching

LIVES of Americans are at stake. Lives of our returning veterans are threatened. American liberties and freedom are in the balance.

The Ku Klux Klan rides openly in Florida, claims 20,000 members in Georgia, is being revived on a huge scale in the Southern and border States. Negroes, veterans and non-veterans are being maimed, murdered, persecuted almost daily in a new campaign of Hitler-like "white supremacy" terrorism. In many cases the State itself is involved in the conspiracy of terror.

All this is for one main purpose: to subjugate the Negro soldier on his return to civilian life.

In Madison, Florida, on October 11, Jesse James Payne, a Negro lad, was taken out of jail and lynched. The Sheriff, who had the only key to the jail, left the jail unguarded overnight.

Even State Attorney General J. Tom Watson urged suspension of the Sheriff, but so far two Madison County Grand Juries have refused to act on the case. And Governor Millard F. Caldwell has refused to suspend the Sheriff.

In South Carolina, war veteran Moses Greene, a Negro, was murdered by two deputy sheriffs on his farm near Ellenton on September 9. In this case there was not even an investigation or any action by the state or county authorities. The sheriffs were not punished because their victim was a Negro.

In Suwanee County, Florida, war veteran Sam McFadden, a Negro, was lynched by three men on October 21. One of the men involved was a local police chief. The Grand Jury, composed of 18 landowners and businessmen, refused to return any indictment for this murder. The three murderers went scot free.

These lynch murderers can be prosecuted under the Federal Civil Rights Law, imprisoned for from one to ten years, fined from $1,000 to $5,000.

Florida and South Carolina have refused to act.

You can make the U. S. Department of Justice act by writing, and getting other organizations to write, Attorney General Tom Clark, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

Demand that his Department act now to stop these murders and further lynchings by prosecuting under Federal Law the murderers of Jesse James Payne, Sam McFadden and Moses Greene.

Make the power of the people felt in Washington for justice.

Send financial contributions to carry on this work to the International Labor Defense, 112 East 19th St., New York 3, N. Y.

THE FIGHT AGAINST THE POLL TAX:

"Pass HR 7" Tag Raises The Jitters

BEA McCREA, former Business Agent of Local 26, found out that it makes a difference whose tag you wear in the United States Capitol.

If you're a big manufacturer, you can have the use of House and Senate Committee rooms for days on end. You can line up exhibits to break the OPA dam against higher prices. You can hang the walls with placards demanding more profit and less control. No one will protest, and Congressmen will send their secretaries and their wives in to see the exhibits.

But if you are wearing a small tag reading "Pass HR 7" (the federal anti-poll tax bill)—watch out! You're breaking a law.

Bea was a delegate from the Tidewater Industrial Union Council of the National Action Conference to Pass HR 7. The Bill, which would abolish the poll tax and give 10 million white and Negro people of the South the chance to vote for the first time, has already been passed in the House.

With the poll tax as a barrier, the people of the South have had to put up with such reactionary Congressmen as Bilbo, Rankin and Eastland. Once it is removed, they will have the chance to vote for men who will really represent the Southern workers and not just a few select voters. It would not only help the South, but the rest of the nation as well.

Now the job is to get the measure passed in the Senate over the opposition, filibustering and delaying tactics of the poll-tax Senators.

Accompanied by FTA organizer Joe Hellinger and several other delegates to the Conference, Bea was buttonholing Senators for support to the Bill. They had just visited Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia to get his support. After having heard Senator Byrd's profound suggestion that the delegates stop smoking and use the money they save to pay their poll taxes, they left the Senate Office Building.

On the sidewalk outside, one of the Capitol police officers informed Bea that he had been instructed to tell delegates not to go inside the buildings with the "Pass HR 7" tags.

"But I'm outside now," she protested.

"Well, you'd better take it off anyway," the cop said.

And there really is a law. The catch is in the enforcement of this law. Senate employees recall that one of the Senate elevator operators had a "Dewey-for-President" badge pinned to his elevator car all through the 1944 campaign.

BEA McCREA, former Business Agent of Local 26, Suffolk, Va., shown wearing the anti-poll tax tag on a visit to Washington.

Honolulu Canteen Appeals For Funds

Honolulu, Hawaii — "Thousands of servicemen here in Hawaii are being deluged with all kinds of anti-labor propaganda," says a letter from the Honolulu Labor Canteen, appealing to organized labor for funds to keep the Canteen open as "the only agency from which servicemen can get the true story of labor."

The Canteen, which has an average weekly attendance of 2,300, is counter-acting anti-union lies by offering servicemen courses at it labor school, Sunday afternoon forums, discussion groups, and tours to local union offices. In addition, the Canteen encourages servicemen to write to their Congressmen on important legislative issues.

Your Local can help continue this fine job by sending a contribution to Ewert G. Guinier, Labor Canteen, 830 Richards St., Honolulu, Hawaii.

Mary Lou Koger On Labor School Assn.

Monteagle, Tenn. — Mary Lou Koger, FTA International Organizer in Nashville, was recently elected Secretary of the Highlander Folk School Alumni Association at a meeting of over a hundred Southern CIO leaders.

Representing more than twenty international unions from Georgia, Alabama, North and South Carolina, Louisiana, Tennessee and Arkansas, the labor leaders met at the School to plan an educational program which will help bring better working conditions to Southern workers.

FORWARD MARCH!

How To Sign Up Members

By HAROLD J. LANE, International Secretary-Treasurer

(This article is a continuation of "Consolidation is the Key," from the January 1 issue of the NEWS.)

LOCAL 110, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which has a contract with the Quaker Oats Company of that city, had 507 members at the time of last year's International Convention. In June, 1945, they had 602. As of October, 1945, they have 840 members. Approximately 95% of the workers in that plant are now members of the Union. This increase of 323 new members is the result of a well-worked out organizing program.

As their first step, they secured a list of all employees from the Company. This was not a special list drawn up by the management to assist the Local, but on the contrary, it was the regular seniority list. The second step was to take the seniority list and compare it with the membership files in order to determine the names of the people working in the plant who did not belong to the Union. The third step was to give copies of the list of all non-union people to all the Shop Stewardss and members of the Local. Fourth, they held a contest and gave a war bond to the individual securing the most new members in a 3-month period.

In case they might not be successful in signing up the members in the above-mentioned manner, they also used two other methods. The first was a visiting committee composed of one or two Shop Stewards and one or two additional members who would visit the reluctant workers in their homes and explain to them why it was necessary for the good of themselves, their families, and their fellow workers to join the Union.

Armed With Facts

The visiting committees were armed with facts and figures showing the worker in concrete terms just what progress had been made by the Union since their first contract in improved working conditions, better hours and higher wages. They pointed out how much more could be gained when everybody got into the organization and made it bigger and stronger so that it would be in a better bargaining position for the next contract.

This resulted in many new members joining the organization.

As a last resort, Local 110 had gate parties. When a delegation of from 10 to 50 workers gather around a non-union worker, they are usually able to convince him that he should become a member of the organization.

Another Quaker Oats Local that has done an excellent job is Local 125, St. Joseph, Mo. They brought their membership from 268 at the time of the convention to 575 as of October, 1945. This is an increase of over 100% in dues-paying membership, and brings them to approximately 90% of all the workers in the shop belonging to the Union.

This local worked very closely with the officers of Local 110, and they also had an organizing campaign in which they paid each member a dollar for every new member signed up, with the exception, of course, of returning veterans and transfers.

Recruiting Veterans

Both Local 125 and Local 110 have done an excellent job in recruiting veterans into the organization. It is very important that other local unions give this problem serious consideration. We are all aware of the fact that during the war years the vets were flooded with all kinds of propaganda telling them, among many other things, that the workers at home were "in velvet" and were making tremendous wages while the GIs were fighting for $50 a month.

It doesn't take long after a veteran takes off his uniform to learn that the wages of the workers have not even kept up with increases in the cost of living during the course of the war, and that the Union is the only organization that has carried on a constant fight for the veterans. On the political front the Union fought for a better and improved GI Bill, among other things.

In the plant, the Union has fought to guarantee veterans' seniority and wages, which means job security—one of the many things the GIs were fighting for.

Our Union, by convention action, has waived initiation fees for veterans. Many locals have established veterans committees which are an active, functioning committee in the local union, and which play a very important role in recruiting returned veterans into the organization.

A veteran's place is in the Union where he has the best opportunity to guarantee that the things he fought for will be obtained.

Locals Almost 100% In Good Standing

Philadelphia, Pa. — Financial Secretaries and Treasurers of FTA Local Unions received hearty thanks for their activities from Int. Secy.-Treas. Harold J. Lane in a holiday message sent to them last month.

"The fact that you have fulfilled your duties by sending in your per capita on time and paid your supply bills promptly, has helped make possible the splendid organizational and consolidation progress which has taken place since the Convention," Lane wrote.

"Your International takes tremendous pride in the fact that out of 140 Local Unions, there are 138 Locals in good standing, and only 2 in bad standing.

"I don't believe this record can be equalled by any other International Union.

"You have helped make this possible, and I am sure you will continue your splendid work during the coming year."

South Can Afford 65c

Nashville, Tenn. — Southern industry can afford to pay a 65c minimum wage, according to the Southern Patriot, publication of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Substandard wages are the root of the South's economic evils, the Patriot said in its "Freedom from Want" issue.

Wages below the 65c hourly minimum are received today by 47% of all Southern textile workers, 47% of all Southern lumber workers and 58% of all Southern tobacco workers—or 784,000 in these three industries alone—the Patriot pointed out.

Wage Differential

Wartime developments have widened the gulf between wages paid in the South and in the rest of the nation for similar work, while the cost of living has increased more in the South.

The Patriot asserted that the Southern tobacco industry the cost of raising minimum wages to 65c an hour would be $7 million—as against $154 million in profits.

Don't Buy
Lucky Strike
Pall Mall

On Strike

Amer. Tobacco Strike Honor Roll

FTA solidarity behind the American Tobacco strikers was strongly evidenced by the financial contributions to the strike fund that rolled in to the National Office from the following locals:

Local 7-2, Seattle, Washington
Local 11, Lockport, Illinois
Local 19, Memphis, Tennessee
Local 22, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Local 64, San Diego, California
Local 69, Lima, Ohio
Local 70, Lima, Ohio
Local 71, Van Wert, Ohio
Local 72, Findlay, Ohio
Local 73, St. Marys, Ohio
Local 80, Camden, New Jersey
Local 88, Newark, New Jersey
Local 89, Jonesboro, Arkansas
Local 98, Little Rock, Arkansas
Local 101, York, Pennsylvania
Local 105, New Brunswick, New Jersey
Local 110, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Local 154, Hillside, New Jersey
Local 174, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Local 179, Toledo, Ohio
Local 180, Vicksburg, Mississippi
Local 182, Port Gibson, Mississippi
Local 186, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Local 193, Glenolden, Pennsylvania
Local 194, Chicago, Illinois
Local 200, Wheeling, West Virginia
Local 273, New York, New York
Local 281, Detroit, Michigan
Local 288, Greenville, Mississippi
Local 638, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Citrus Workers Organizing Committee, Lindsay, California

(In addition, several locals have made contributions direcly to the strikers in Charleston, Trenton and Philadelphia.)

Notes from the LOCALS

Protest Truman Policy

7 San Francisco, Calif.—Local 7 here went on record strongly protesting President Truman's anti-strike proposals. Letters voicing their protest were sent to Senators Downey and Knowland, according to San Francisco Branch Agent Pablo S. Valdez.

New Locals

28 Charlotte, N. C.—Recently chartered in FTA, Local 28 has bargaining rights for the 80 employees of the Buckeye Cotton Oil Company here.

Local officers are: W. N. Roseboro, Pres.; Leonard Caldwell, Vice-Pres.; Perry Mims, Secy.; and Paul Alexander, Treas.

34 Houston, Texas—Local 34, under contract with the Houston Milling Co., received its charter last month.

The Local has bargaining rights for some 120 workers who are employed in the milling of flour, horse and mule feed, stock feed, dairy feed, etc.

Local officers are: J. W. White, Pres.; Abraham Runnells, Fin. Secy.; Fonzie Jones, Vice-Pres.; Annie Mae Cal, Rec. Secy.; Jessie Chapman, Chaplain; Albert Tillis, Governor Phillips and Eliza Carr, Trustees; Lewis Mitchell and Hodges Armstrong, Guards.

New Officers

73 St. Marys, Ohio — Newly elected officers of Local 73 are: Thelma Miller, Pres.; Lillian Hall, Vice-Pres.; Frances McManee, Rec. Secy.; and Elizabeth Bushong, Fin. Secy. and Treas.

Xmas Gift

297 Toledo, Ohio—The Christmas season was made merrier for the members of Local 297 when the Woolson Spice Company presented each employee with a $10 Christmas present.

By Virginia Lee, Reporter

To help the American Tobacco strikers, spread word of the boycott. Locals may order boycott stickers from the National office.

From The Advance

STRAIGHT TALK FOR VETERANS

Courtesy Carl Rose -- and Collier's Magazine

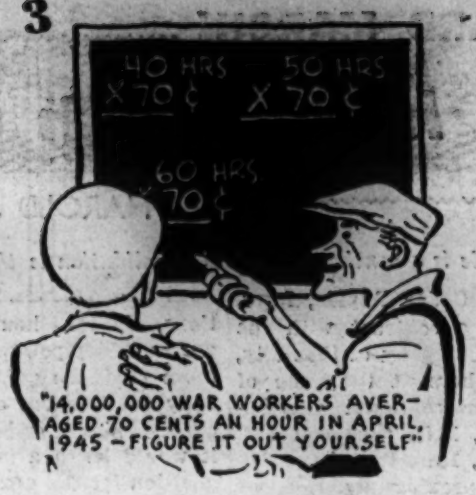
1

"WAIT A MINUTE SOLDIER - I COULDN'T HAVE MATCHED YOUR SACRIFICE, BUT LETS CLEAR UP A FEW POINTS ——"

2

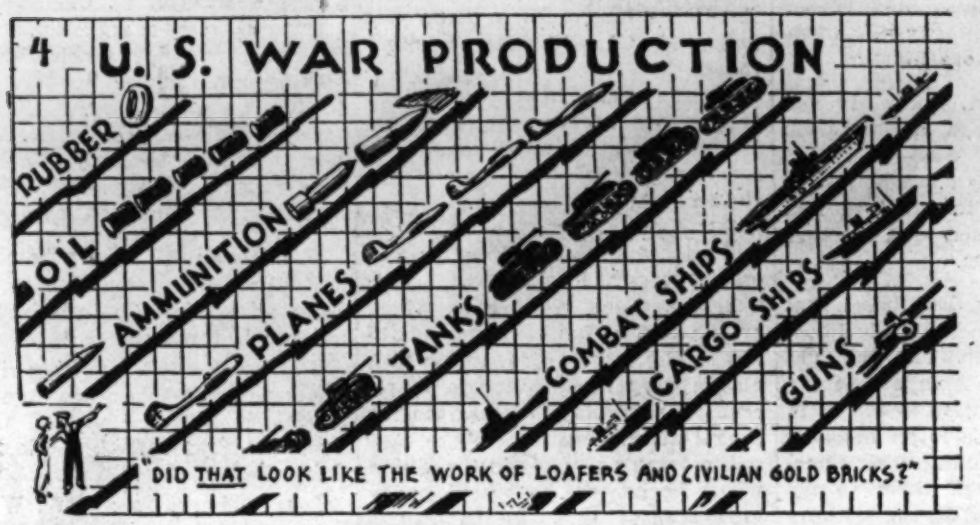
"WHERE'D YOU GET THIS IDEA THAT WE ALL MADE $150 A WEEK?"

3



"14,000,000 WAR WORKERS AVERAGED 70 CENTS AN HOUR IN APRIL, 1945 — FIGURE IT OUT YOURSELF"

4

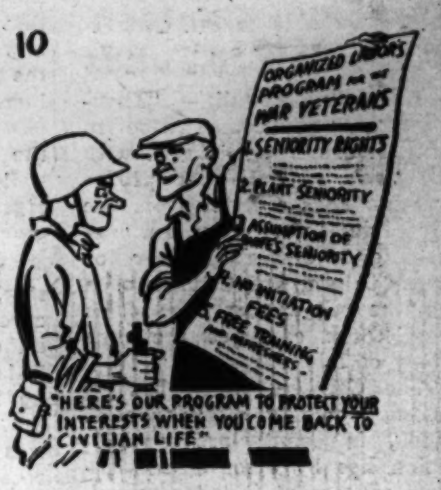


"DID THAT LOOK LIKE THE WORK OF LOAFERS AND CIVILIAN GOLD BRICKS?"

9

"ANYWAY — TAKE A LOOK AT WORKING TIME LOST DUE TO STRIKES IN 1944 ——"

10


ORGANIZED LABOR'S PROGRAM FOR OUR VETERANS
1. SENIORITY RIGHTS
2. PLANT SENIORITY
3. ASSUMPTION OF PRIOR SENIORITY
4. NO INITIATION FEES
5. FREE TRAINING

"HERE'S OUR PROGRAM TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS WHEN YOU COME BACK TO CIVILIAN LIFE"

5

"GENERAL MARSHALL SAID THIS ABOUT US: "SO PRODIGIOUS AND FAITHFUL HAVE BEEN THE EFFORTS....."

6

U.S. ARMED FORCES NEWS
209 A.W.O.L. AT CAMP DILBAT
GOLDBRICKING AT ALL TIME HIGH IN OCCUPIED ZONE
25 CORPORALS
11 SERGEANTS
MILITARY EFFICIENCY IMPERILED

"HOW'D YOU LIKE IT IF THIS WAS ALL THE NEWS WE GOT ABOUT THE ARMY?"

11

"AFTER ALL THE FIGHTING YOU'VE DONE, DO YOU WANT SOMETHING LIKE THIS?"

12

"YOU'LL FIND A LABOR REPRESENTATIVE AT EVERY VETERAN'S INFORMATION CENTER, READY WITH ADVICE AND HELP."

7

"ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE OF YOU FELLOWS WAS A UNION MEMBER"

8

"—AND DISCHARGED VETERANS ARE AMONG THE MOST MILITANT CRUSADERS FOR LABOR'S RIGHTS"

13

"WE DID ALL RIGHT ON WAR BOND PURCHASES AND WAR CONTRIBUTIONS"

14

"SOLDIER, IT ADDS UP TO THIS — WE HAVEN'T LET YOU DOWN YET — AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO!"

The Story of Labor

INDUSTRY GREW RAPIDLY AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

IMMIGRANTS POURED IN. THEY WERE ENGLISH, IRISH, GERMAN, SWEDE, DANE, RUSSIAN; CZECH, POLE, ITALIAN. THEY WERE PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC, JEWISH

JOE WORKER

THEY WORKED IN FACTORY AND MILL, STITCHED CLOTHES, BUILT RAILROADS AND MINED COAL. THEY WERE *AMERICAN LABOR!* THE UNIONS LIKEWISE INCREASED IN NUMBERS AND INFLUENCE... UNTIL THE PANIC OF 1873. THEN, IN THE MIDST OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND STARVATION, THE EMPLOYERS ANNOUNCED WAGE CUTS. THE MINERS STRUCK. FOR THE FIRST TIME, BUSINESS USED PINKERTON DETECTIVES TO SMASH A STRIKE. IN 1877 THE RAILROAD UNIONS ALSO WENT ON STRIKE AGAINST REPEATED WAGE CUTS. IT WAS THE BLOODIEST STRIKE IN AMERICAN HISTORY. IT WAS ALMOST A REVOLUTION...

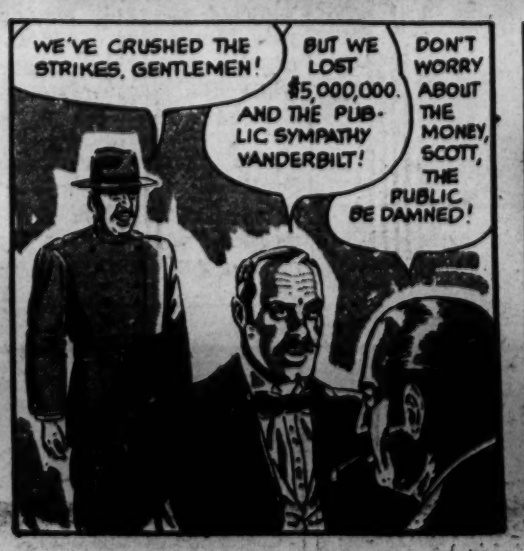
157

THAT'S THE THIRD CUT IN TWO YEARS, MR. VANDERBILT. WE CAN'T LIVE ON $5 A WEEK, WHY DON'T YOU CUT YOUR STOCKHOLDERS' DIVIDENDS, INSTEAD?
THAT'S FOREIGN AGITATOR'S TALK. WOULD YOU TAKE THE BREAD OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS WHO HOLD OUR STOCK?
HA! HA! WE'RE THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS!

SHOOT THE DIRTY FOREIGNERS!
WE'RE AMERICANS SAME AS YOU! WOULD YOU SHOOT YOUR NEIGHBORS BECAUSE THEY REFUSE TO STARVE?
HE'S RIGHT! FELLOWS I'M NOT FIRING ON NEIGHBORS!

WHEN THE LOCAL MILITIA REFUSED TO KILL STRIKERS, THEY CALLED IN TROOPS FROM ELSEWHERE. THESE WEREN'T SO SQUEAMISH...
THAT'LL TEACH YOU AGITATORS!

TWO DIED AND 29 WERE BADLY WOUNDED BY THAT SINGLE VOLLEY. THE ENRAGED PEOPLE CHASED THE MILITIA TO THE RAILROAD STATION...
THEY SHOT DOWN MY CHILD!
SOME DAY THE MILITIA WON'T BE FOOLED BY LIES THAT EVERY STRIKER IS A FOREIGN AGITATOR!


WE'VE CRUSHED THE STRIKES, GENTLEMEN!
BUT WE LOST $5,000,000. AND THE PUBLIC SYMPATHY VANDERBILT!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MONEY, SCOTT, THE PUBLIC BE DAMNED!

WE MUSTN'T BE DISCOURAGED, SAM. WE'VE LEARNED A LESSON... WE MUST HAVE NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON A TRADE UNION BASIS. WE CAN'T FIGHT SEPARATELY AND ALONE!
Jack Aldrman